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FOODS IN SURPLUS--APPLES

Broadcast by James Hasselman, Office of Marketing and Regulatory Work,  
Thursday, October 5, 1939, in the Department of Agriculture portion of the National  
Farm and Home Hour.

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Yes, Farm and Home friends it's apple harvest time, and this year the crop is big -- over 103 million bushels available for commercial markets. That's not far from a bushel of apples for every man, woman, and child in this country.

This year's commercial apple crop is 25 percent bigger than last year's production and 7 percent greater than the average for the last 10 years.

While most of the States of the country produce some apples, about two-thirds of this year's 103 million-bushel commercial crop is found in the seven States of Washington, New York, Michigan, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and California. The State of Washington leads with a production of 20 million bushels; and New York State is second with a little under 15 million bushels.

In most of the producing areas, the apples are of good quality and size -- in fact, better than average. Biggest supplies of apples are in the fall and early winter dessert varieties which are most commonly eaten out of hand.

Apple growers are faced with a difficult market situation this year, largely because of the big crop of all fruits and the uncertainty of export outlets.

Market prices for apples dropped sharply during the last few weeks as the harvest of fall and winter varieties got under way.

Representatives of apple growers meeting recently here at the Department of Agriculture suggested to the industry a program designed to secure fair prices for producers and to give consumers with an ample quantity of the best quality apples available at reasonable prices. Under this program, only apples of U. S. Combination or better grades would be marketed this season, and no fruit below U. S. No. 1 grade or any fall varieties of apples would be stored. In their plan to relieve the difficult marketing situation, growers would utilize the less desirable grades of apples for commercial byproducts such as for drying or canning to prevent these lower grades from entering fresh market outlets.

The Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation is going to buy good quality surplus apples for relief distribution.

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U.S. D. M. C. Marketing and Regulation Work  
FOODS IN SURPLUS - CABBAGE

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Broadcast by Nathan Koenig, Marketing and Regulation Work, U.S.D.A. in the Departments portion of the National Farm and Home Hour, Friday, July 14, 1939, over facilities of the NBC Blue Network.

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KADDERLY:

A few days ago the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation added seven more foodstuffs to the list of farm products officially declared to be in surplus in connection with the operation of the food stamp plan.

Six of these new commodities go on the list July 16. These new surplus foods are cabbage, fresh tomatoes, fresh peaches, fresh green peas, onions, and rice. Fresh pears go on the list of surplus foods August 1.

The original list of foods declared to be in surplus under the food stamp plan was announced during the first week of May. Oranges and grapefruit, we've on that original list, but these will be taken off July 16. This will leave butter, shell eggs, corn meal, dried prunes, dry edible beans, and wheat and whole wheat flour to remain on the list of surplus foods together with the new commodities which have been added.

The food stamp plan under which the surplus commodities are designated is designed to widen markets for surplus farm products. At the same time, it tries to increase the consumption of health-giving foodstuffs among the needy. The plan is now in operation in Rochester, New York; Dayton, Ohio; and Seattle, Washington. Birmingham, Alabama, is the fourth city in which the plan will get underway shortly. Eligible families taking part in the plan in the selected cities receive blue surplus food order stamps which are good in stores of these cities for any of the officially designated surplus commodities.

The fact that these commodities are in surplus is of interest to consumers throughout the country. It means that supplies are very plentiful and prices are low.

Nathan Koenig of the Division of Marketing Programs is here today to tell you about the supply and price situation for cabbage----one of the seven foodstuffs just added to the list of farm products declared to be in surplus. Note -----

KOENIG:

First of all, let me say that from the looks of the supply and farm price situation, cabbage should be priced very reasonably in most stores throughout the country.

Right now, cabbage is being harvested in what is known as the intermediate producing area. The harvesting season for this area started in June

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and already about half the crop has been shipped to market. Most of the supplies of cabbage on markets are now coming from such States in the intermediate area as New Jersey, the Long Island section of New York, Maryland, Illinois, Iowa, and Missouri. In the next few weeks heavy supplies of cabbage will come from the late domestic producing area which includes such States as New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Minnesota, Indiana, Colorado, Wisconsin, and Oregon.

Cabbage is available on markets during most of the year. But, the heaviest supplies begin in June and the peak is reached in October.

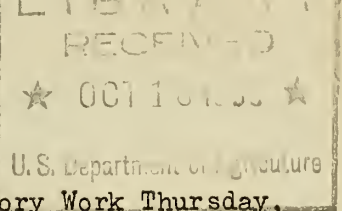
So far this season, the supply of cabbage has been greater than usual. The crop in the intermediate producing area supplying the markets at this season of the year is a little over 16,000 tons above the average crop harvested during the last five years.

It's a little too early to estimate the amount of cabbage that will come from the late domestic crop. But, reports indicate a drop of about 16 percent from the acreage planted last year.

Now, a few words about prices... The farm price of cabbage so far this year has been relatively low. In fact, the price was so low that farmers in some States such as Tennessee and Mississippi were forced to leave large quantities of cabbage unharvested in their fields. Usually cabbage prices drop sharply from June to October. Prices are lower because the amount of cabbage going to market is heaviest during the summer and fall months.

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FOODS IN SURPLUS - ONIONS



Broadcast by Nathan Koenig, Marketing and Regulatory Work Thursday, August 10, 1939 in the Department of Agriculture portion of the National Farm & Home Hour, over the National Broadcasting Company's Blue Network.

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Once again it's time for a brief report on the supply and price situation of another of the commodities officially declared to be in surplus. Today's report is about onions. Nathan Koenig of the Department's Division of Marketing Programs is ready to give us some of the highlights about the onion supply and price situation. Let's have them, Nate.

This is the time of the year when the harvest of the biggest part of the Nation's onion supply is getting under way. These are the late onions, which represent about 75 percent of the total commercial production of onions in this country. Most of these late onions will be stored for sale during the fall and winter months.

Late onions are grown in about 17 States. But around three-fourths of the acreage is in the six States of New York, Michigan, Colorado, California, Minnesota, and Oregon.

Just how big this season's onion surplus is likely to be will not be known until later this afternoon when the crop report comes out giving the production estimates. However, the number of acres planted in onions this year is reported to be slightly above last year's acreage and greater than the average number of acres planted during the last ten years.

This year's prices for onions have been at a level about in line with prices a year ago. In some instances, however, prices have been slightly lower than those of last year.

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## FOODS IN SURPLUS -- PEACHES

Broadcast by Nathan Koenig, Division of Marketing Programs, Thursday, August 17, 1939 in the Department of Agriculture portion of National Farm and Home Hour over the N.B.C. Blue Network.

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KADDERLY:

In recent weeks we have brought you information on several food products that officially have been declared in surplus by the Department of Agriculture. Today Nathan Koenig of the Division of Marketing Programs is here to lead off in a discussion of another of these surplus commodities -- peaches. After he gives us some of the highlights about the supply and price situation, Miss Van Deman of our Bureau of Home Economics will have something to say about the home use of this fruit.

All right, Nate, what's the price and supply news on peaches?

KOENIG:

The big news about peaches is that they're plentiful. And the quality is good. The price of peaches now is much lower than usual. So from the standpoint of the consumer we have a combination of factors this year which makes peaches within easy reach of nearly everyone. Lots of peaches -- good quality -- lower prices - - - these are the highlights on the peach situation.

Right now, the harvest of the late crop of peaches is getting under way. Most of these late peaches are grown in producing states located in the northern half of the United States. Early peaches which are grown in the southern half of the country are about through being harvested, and the markets are now being taken over by the late crop from the northern sections.

This year's crop of early and late peaches, exclusive of those used for commercial canning purposes, is estimated to be slightly over 46 million bushels. This is about 19 percent greater than last year's production and about 17 percent above the average for the last 10 years. Now figuring that a bushel of peaches weighs 48 pounds, the crop this year is big enough to supply every man, woman, and child in this country with around 18 pounds of fresh peaches.

Most of the increase in the total crop is in the late peaches which are now moving to market. The late crop is about one-third bigger than usual. So from now on until about the middle of September supplies of peaches on markets should be much heavier than in recent weeks.

The rate at which peaches are being harvested is increasing steadily as the fruit matures and becomes ready for sale. Some of the States now shipping peaches are Michigan, Illinois, the Virginias, Delaware, and New Jersey. A few peaches are beginning to come from Pennsylvania, which is one of the more important producing States. Harvesting is about ready to get under way in the State of Washington. Toward the end of this month, Colorado will be shipping heavily and harvesting of peaches will begin in New York State.

The peak of the peach season is expected to be reached around the last week of August and the first week of September. Because of the large crop, supplies on markets will be getting heavier from now on until the peak is reached.

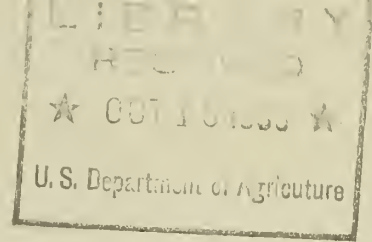
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FOODS IN SURPLUS -- PEARS



Broadcast by Nathan Koenig, Division of Marketing Programs in the Department of Agriculture portion of the National Farm and Home Hour, Thursday August 24, 1939 over the NBC Blue Network

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The fresh fruit season is really on....and pears are in for their share of the glory.

From now until the first snow hits the ground supplies of pears on markets should be plentiful. This year's crop is bigger than average, although slightly below last season's production. The estimates indicate a production of around 30,600,000 bushels of pears. While this year's crop is nearly 2,000,000 bushels below last year's production, it is about 5,000,000 bushels greater than the average for the last 10 years.

So far this season prices for pears have averaged a little higher than a year ago when prices were very low.

Some pears are grown in practically every State of the country. But in only a few States are pears of commercial importance. The Pacific Coast States of California, Oregon, and Washington grow about two-thirds of the supply of pears in this country. Among the other pear producing States, Michigan and New York are of major commercial importance.

The pear harvesting season begins around the first part of July and continues into the late fall months. The earliest pears harvested are the California Bartletts, followed during the summer and early fall months by Bartletts produced in Oregon, Washington, Michigan, and New York. Almost half the pears grown in this country are Bartletts.

Harvesting of the first late, or winter, pears begins during the latter part of August when the Bartletts are usually past their peak. The biggest part of the total supply of winter pears comes from the Pacific Coast States.

The late varieties of pears are on markets during the fall and winter months. But, the heaviest, or peak, supplies of winter pears come to market centers during late September, October, and November.

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